

CALIFORNIA GRAPE ACREAGE

2004



California Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 1258
Sacramento, CA 95812-1258
(916) 498-5161

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MAP AND DEFINITIONS OF CALIFORNIA GRAPE PRICING DISTRICTS

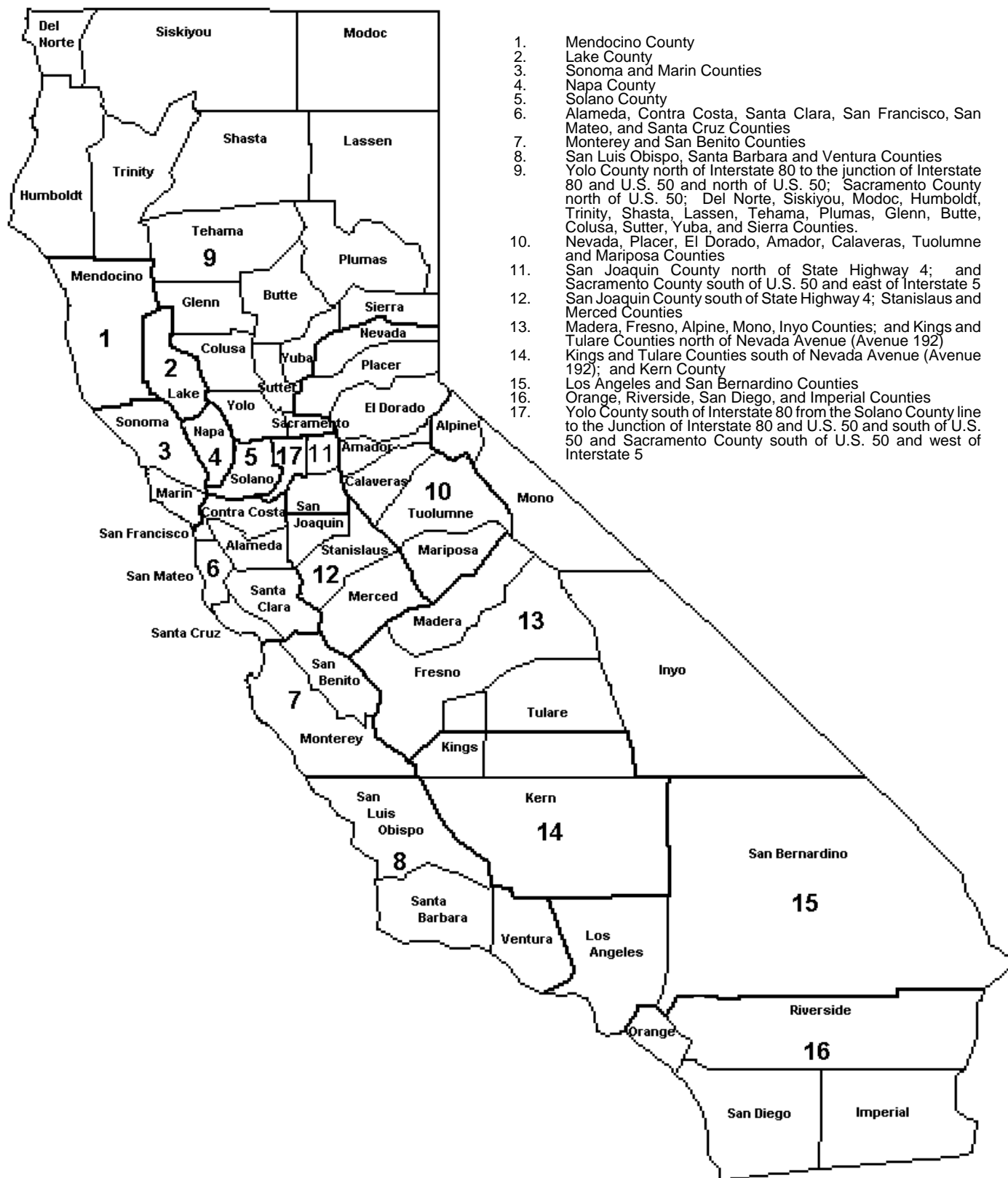


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SURVEY METHODS

The California Agricultural Statistics Service (CASS) annually conducts an acreage survey of California grape growers. This is a continuation of a long series of annual surveys to provide grape acreage by variety and year planted.

Users are cautioned that this report consists of two parts:

- ▶ Estimated grape acreage, bearing and non-bearing -- The first table shows estimated bearing and non-bearing grape acreage by type (Page 2). The second table shows estimated wine-type grape bearing acreage by variety (Page 3).
- ▶ Detailed data by variety, year planted, and county -- As voluntarily reported by grape growers and maintained in CASS's data base.

With perfect information, the estimated grape acreage and the detailed data would be the same. However, this will never be the case for the following reasons:

- ▶ A voluntary census of approximately 10,000 grape growers is unlikely to ever attain 100 percent completeness.
- ▶ It is extremely difficult for a small staff in Sacramento to detect growers that are planting grapes for the first time.
- ▶ The detailed data reflects vine removals from more than 21,000 acres during the past twelve months. Of this number, significant acreage was harvested in 2004 prior to being pulled out, and that acreage has already been removed from the detailed data.

The major source of the grape detailed data was a questionnaire mailed to all grape growers included in CASS's data base. The mailing was made in September 2004 to approximately 10,000 grape growers. The questionnaire contained previously reported crop, variety, and acreage information preprinted. Producers were asked to update the information with new plantings, removals, and any other corrections; new growers were mailed a blank questionnaire. Growers were given six weeks to respond by mail. A telephone follow-up was then undertaken. Field personnel personally visited large growers who did not respond by mail or telephone.

To arrive at the estimated grape acreage, the CASS grape acreage data base was compared with data provided from the pesticide application data maintained by County Agricultural Commissioners and the Department of Pesticide Regulation.

DATA CLARIFICATIONS

Bearing and Non-bearing Acreage: For purposes of this publication, all varieties are considered non-bearing for three years (i.e., acres planted in 2002 would not be bearing until 2005). The only exceptions are the Thompson Seedless variety and all table type grapes in Imperial and Riverside counties, which are of bearing age after one year.

Grafting: Graftings on bearing acres are recorded as planted in the previous year (i.e., Chardonnay grafted in 2004 onto a 1980 variety is recorded as planted in 2003). This assumes that grafted vines will actually bear a full crop in two years as opposed to three years for a newly planted vine.

Varieties: Data are provided for each variety with 50 or more total acres standing in 2004. Acreage for all other varieties are combined in "Other" categories. Care was taken to properly identify each block reported with a recognized varietal name.

Rootstock: Most of the rootstock shown was planted in the past three years. However, some earlier plantings are included. When rootstock was budded over, the year of planting assigned to that block of grapes was the year preceding the budding. For instance, if a 2002 rootstock planting was budded over in 2004, the year of planting assigned to the selected variety was 2003. (See Grafting.) Nursery rootstock is not included.

Period Covered: The primary intent of the 2004 survey was to record removals of grapes since the 2003 harvest and new planting of grapes during 2004. Acreage abandoned in 2004 was excluded from bearing acreage. Planting activity is accounted for on a calendar-year basis.

Grape Crush Districts: Grape acreage data is also being published by grape crush districts (Table 10). A map with descriptions of those districts is located on the inside front cover.

RESULTS

California's 2004 grape acreage is estimated by the California Agricultural Statistics Service (CASS) at 853,000 acres. Of the total acres, 800,000 were bearing and 53,000 were non-bearing. The breakdown by type is as follows: Raisin type totaled 248,000 acres with 244,000 bearing and 4,000 non-bearing; Table type totaled 92,000 acres with 83,000 bearing and 9,000 non-bearing; Wine type totaled 513,000 acres with 473,000 bearing and 40,000 non-bearing.

The leading wine type varieties continued to be Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon. Flame Seedless is the leading table type grape. Thompson Seedless continues to be the leading raisin type variety and is used for raisins, fresh market, concentrate and wine.

ESTIMATED GRAPE ACREAGE 1/

Type	2002	2003	2004	Percent Change
Raisin	279,000	260,000	248,000	-4.6
Bearing	273,000	255,000	244,000	-4.3
Non-Bearing	6,000	5,000	4,000	-20.0
Table	97,000	93,000	92,000	-1.1
Bearing	88,000	85,000	83,000	-2.4
Non-Bearing	9,000	8,000	9,000	12.5
Wine	556,000	529,000	513,000	-3.0
Bearing	486,000	479,000	473,000	-1.3
Non-Bearing	70,000	50,000	40,000	-20.0
All Grapes	932,000	882,000	853,000	-3.3
Bearing	847,000	819,000	800,000	-2.3
Non-Bearing	85,000	63,000	53,000	-15.9

1/ Reported data with an allowance for incompleteness.

GRAPE BEARING ACREAGE STANDING BY MAJOR VARIETY AND TYPE a/

Variety and Type	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	Acres									
Thompson Seedless	263,479	264,090	263,177	262,956	266,231	264,874	N/A	N/A	N/A	227,463
Other Raisin	4,972	5,460	6,399	6,887	6,816	7,785	N/A	N/A	N/A	11,522
TOTAL RAISIN	268,451	269,550	269,576	269,843	273,047	272,659	269,064	261,170	250,368	238,985
Autumn Royal	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	94	150	404	835	1,296	2,225
Calmeria	1,728	1,481	1,401	1,378	1,384	1,240	1,233	1,520	1,478	1,408
Emperor	5,947	4,785	4,511	3,940	3,299	2,851	2,578	2,254	2,051	1,499
Flame Seedless	27,269	27,159	26,954	27,107	28,373	27,120	26,140	25,492	24,020	22,478
Perlette	5,843	5,289	5,149	4,997	5,089	4,594	4,327	4,191	3,497	3,025
Princess	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15	72	302	1,005	1,542
Red Crimson	1,130	1,703	2,512	3,866	6,183	7,629	9,835	10,849	12,351	13,162
Red Globe	7,278	7,827	9,584	11,953	14,436	15,605	15,347	15,430	14,159	13,064
Ruby Seedless	6,624	7,023	7,539	7,803	7,789	7,165	6,262	6,011	5,323	4,794
Sugraone	3,118	3,124	3,710	3,295	3,367	3,305	3,103	3,089	3,075	3,075
Other Table	17,301	16,032	15,357	14,934	14,444	14,104	12,931	12,397	11,059	11,305
TOTAL TABLE	76,238	74,423	76,717	79,273	84,458	83,778	82,232	82,370	79,314	77,577
Chardonnay	58,649	62,883	65,058	70,629	80,998	89,272	93,316	92,193	94,164	93,431
Chenin Blanc	23,198	21,892	21,449	21,147	20,437	19,127	17,968	15,731	13,369	11,242
French Colombard	44,806	44,985	45,788	44,807	44,504	42,058	39,474	35,003	31,819	28,654
Sauvignon Blanc	10,797	10,580	9,819	9,403	9,608	10,808	12,257	12,345	12,489	13,030
Other White Wine	19,967	19,766	19,928	20,019	19,738	20,958	22,229	22,549	22,203	23,541
TOTAL WHITE WINE	157,417	160,106	162,042	166,005	175,285	182,223	185,244	177,821	174,044	169,898
Barbera	8,538	9,739	10,916	10,987	11,595	10,566	10,259	9,816	8,771	8,470
Cabernet Sauvignon	33,497	33,359	34,221	34,583	39,988	48,285	55,901	62,451	68,306	71,536
Carignane	8,449	7,732	7,811	7,620	7,629	7,145	6,642	6,028	5,129	4,502
Grenache	11,323	10,902	11,117	10,754	11,167	10,841	10,576	9,460	8,489	7,576
Merlot	11,231	14,811	22,118	28,114	36,506	42,070	45,202	47,464	48,721	51,075
Petite Sirah	2,238	2,184	2,210	2,136	2,282	2,495	2,765	3,260	3,916	4,137
Pinot Noir	8,503	8,264	8,085	8,179	9,183	11,769	14,651	16,815	20,093	22,645
Rubired	7,377	8,899	8,983	9,636	10,263	10,841	10,898	12,391	12,242	11,092
Ruby Cabernet	5,699	5,961	6,580	6,818	7,152	7,383	7,742	7,924	7,408	6,679
Syrah	861	913	1,256	1,983	3,369	6,553	9,573	11,909	14,680	16,335
Zinfandel	33,929	36,249	40,942	43,380	46,000	47,152	47,312	47,542	47,655	48,743
Other Red Wine	11,807	12,210	12,601	12,752	14,333	15,964	17,930	18,297	18,078	17,608
TOTAL RED WINE	143,452	151,223	166,840	176,542	199,467	221,064	239,451	253,357	263,488	270,398
TOTAL WINE	300,869	311,329	328,882	342,547	374,752	403,287	424,695	431,177	437,532	440,296
ALL GRAPES	645,558	655,302	675,175	691,663	732,257	759,724	775,991	774,717	767,214	756,858

a/ Detailed data as voluntarily reported by grape growers and maintained in the CASS data base. Totals may not add due to rounding.

ESTIMATED WINE TYPE GRAPE BEARING ACREAGE BY VARIETY 1/

Variety	2002	2003	2004	Percent Change
Cabernet Sauvignon	70,400	74,800	76,000	1.6
Chardonnay	104,000	103,000	99,000	-3.9
Chenin Blanc	17,700	14,600	12,000	-17.8
French Colombard	39,500	34,800	30,800	-11.5
Merlot	53,500	53,400	55,100	3.2
Rubired	14,000	13,400	11,800	-11.9
Sauvignon Blanc	13,900	13,700	14,000	2.2
Syrah	13,400	16,100	17,600	9.3
Zinfandel	53,600	52,200	52,700	1.0
Other Wine	106,000	103,000	104,000	1.0
Total Wine	486,000	479,000	473,000	-1.3

1/ Reported data with an estimated allowance for incompleteness.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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VIC TOLOMEO
Director

JACK RUTZ
Deputy Director

GARY NELSON – SHAWN CLARK
Agricultural Statisticians
Estimates Group -- (916) 498-5161

Issued Cooperatively

RONALD BOSECKER, Administrator
United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

A. G. KAWAMURA, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture
Marketing Services Division

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Grape Variety Synonyms

Alicante Bouschet – Alicante
Beauty Seedless – Black Beauty
Burger – Monbadon
Chardonnay – Pinot Chardonnay
Cinsault or Cinsaut – Black
Malvoisie, Black Malvasia
Emerald Seedless -- Black Seedless
Flame Seedless -- Red Flame
Gamay (Napa) – Gamay, Valdiguie
Grenache -- Grenache Noir
Italia – Muscat Italia

Malaga -- White Malaga
Malvasia Bianca – Vennentino, Vermintino
Mataro – Mourvedre
Meunier -- Pinot Meunier
Muscat Blanc – Muscat Canelli, Muscat
Blanc A Petits Grains
Palomino – Golden Chasselas
Pinot Gris – Pinot Grigio
Princess -- Melissa
Red Crimson – Crimson Seedless
Red Globe – Rose Ito

Rubired – Tintoria
Ruby Seedless – King Ruby
Sangiovese -- Sangioveseto, Brunello
St. Emilion – Ugni Blanc, Trebbiano
Sugraone – Superior Seedless
Syrah -- Syrah Noir, French Syrah, Shiraz
Tempranillo – Valdepenas, Tinta Roriz
Touriga Nacional – Touriga
White Riesling – Johannisberg Riesling,
Riesling